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STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

Vol. 49 No. 35 Pages: 12 Rs. 3.00
Ph: 2496520 / 21 / 22 / 23
E-mail: voice@starofmysore.com
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MYSURU Monday 23rd March 2026
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Hosahundi Junction Black Spot on Outer Ring Road

Flyover plan divides residents, greens

SAFETY Vs TREES: **35 fatal accidents in 11 years; loss of 46 grown trees**

Junction identified for proposed flyover.

Mysuru, Mar. 23 (MTY, BS& BCT)- The junction of Outer Ring Road (ORR) and Devalapura Road near Hosahundi, identified as an accident-prone 'black spot', has sparked a debate over a proposed flyover project.

The flyover is proposed between the busy Nanjangud Road and Uthanahalli Road Junction at Devalapura near Hosahundi, about a kilometre from Nanjangud Road Junction, identified as an accident-prone stretch.

While environmental activists oppose the construction, citing loss of trees, several residents are demanding that the flyover be built at the earliest to improve road safety.

The junction has witnessed several accidents over the years, with fast-moving vehicles on the Ring Road often colliding with those crossing from Devalapura. Since the Outer Ring Road was built about 11 years ago, the spot has reportedly recorded 35 fatal accidents.

(See PLAN on page 5)

Public hearing on Mar. 25

A public hearing will be held on Mar. 25 regarding the proposal to fell 46 trees at the junction of the Outer Ring Road (ORR) and Hadinaru Road near Hosahundi, where the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has proposed to construct a flyover.

The junction has been identified as a 'black spot' by the NHAI due to the frequent accidents reported at the intersection of ORR and Hadinaru Road.

As per procedure, a public hearing is mandatory when more than 15 trees are proposed to be cut for development works. Accordingly, the hearing has been convened following directions from the Forest Department by the NHAI and the Public Works Department (PWD).

N'gud Highway flyover work gains pace

Work on the flyover at Bandipalya Outer Ring Road (ORR) junction on Mysuru-Nanjangud Highway (NH-766) has gathered pace. The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has approved the extension of the flyover beyond the ORR junction towards Nanjangud Road, with the additional stretch to be taken up in the second phase. Once completed, the flyover will be about 550 metres long with spans of 9×25 metres and 1×15 metres. The project is estimated to cost Rs. 57.3 crore.

Intl. Women's Day Special...

To commemorate International Women's Day and to celebrate women from different fields, *Star of Mysore* is publishing special articles during the month.

Today *SOM* features Chandini Chhabra, author of *'The Book of Wild Challenges,'* who is a nature and science educator, blending research with hands-on learning to make conservation engaging for children and accessible to communities. **—Ed**

[Turn to page 6]

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REMEMBRANCE

KALYATANDA A. BOPAIAH
Died: 23.03.1978
This day 48 years ago you left us for your heavenly abode.
We cherish your memory
- Daughters-in-law, Grand Sons, Grand Daughters and Great Grandchildren

STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Monday 23rd March 2026

Hindi Gaurav Samman-2026

Dr. Poornima

Mysuru, Mar. 23- Dr. A.P. Poornima, a distinguished academic and cultural leader, has been conferred with the prestigious international award, "Hindi Gaurav Samman-2026," by Sahitya Arpan, Dubai (UAE). This global recognition celebrates her dedication and immense service to Hindi language and literature.

Dr. Poornima currently serves as the Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Hindi at St. Philomena's College, Mysuru. With over 11 years of academic experience, she has been a cornerstone of the institution since 2017.

She has published 14 books and has received 14 prestigious awards for her contribution to education and literature. Dr. Poornima was recently bestowed with the National-level "TGT Mahadevi Verma Samman-2026."

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

THE YOUNG WOMEN VOTE: ***With the election schedule announced, attention now turns to the median voter, who will shape the Bengal, Assam, Kerala and Tamil Nadu outcomes. This median voter is young, female and aspires to a secure middle-class life. She is also open to joining shifting social coalitions, cutting across caste and religious divides...***

Young aspirational voters matter a lot. But their concerns differ across poll-bound States. Inside West Bengal and Kerala, educated youth lack high-quality jobs. Out-migration is common. Incumbents emphasise State-directed development, while Opposition promises private investment and job creation. Assam, too, faces similar challenges. Its govt. offers regional infra and connectivity to the Indian mainland and Southeast Asia, while Opposition focuses on unemployment, inequality and a composite regional identity. Lastly Tamil Nadu's ecosystem of engineering colleges and industrial corridors, allows governing DMK to combine a twin focus on economic growth and social justice. This pushes Opposition politics to focus on governance efficiency and national integration.

Across poll-bound States, young voters evaluate govts less through ideological narratives, than through perceived performance. Education and job opportunities matter disproportionately, for those seeking to climb the socio-economic ladder. Economic growth matters less to the median voter than distribution of prosperity. It is not that jaati and dharm have lost their appeal, but we are in a hybrid political system in which old caste blocs have fragmented, civilisational cohesion remains elusive and a new welfarism cuts across vote banks. Social identities continue to be salient for aspirational youth, but aspirations are reframed, with a new emphasis on governance performance.

Minority citizens in these poll-bound States exceed those in the rest of India. From an eighth in Tamil Nadu to two-fifths or their higher in Assam and Kerala, religious minorities matter electorally in these States in ways unfamiliar to northerners. Muslims and Christians in these States are diverse. Assamese and Bengali-speaking Muslims in Assam, for instance, overlap, yet remain distinct in their voting behaviour.

Minority youth also vote differently from their parents and grandparents, favouring economic opportunities over empty slogans. Minority concerns may thus be folded into a wider phenomenon of youth and gender politics, rooted in aspirations and effective governance.

In sum, young, female and aspirational voters are likely to swing the upcoming elections in favour of those perceived to be doing more for their households and futures. Parties that speak to the concerns of these median voters are likely to build broad electoral coalitions, in an era of democratic flux.

—Uday Chandra in The Times of India

NEWS SPARKLERS

Roller coaster ride causes brain haemorrhage

Abu Dhabi: A Taiwanese man has claimed that a popular roller coaster in the UAE caused him to suffer a brain haemorrhage that required surgery to fix. The man warned other people over the age of 40 to avoid going on roller coaster rides to avoid the risk of a potentially life-threatening brain haemorrhage.

The unnamed man claimed to have visited Abu Dhabi last August and gone on the famous Ferrari World roller coaster, known for its high G-forces and speed. He started feeling unwell as soon as he got off the ride, but brushed it off as a temporary issue.

On returning to Taiwan, the man began experiencing headaches, which got worse over the next few months, but CT scans revealed nothing out of the ordinary. Last week, however, he suddenly collapsed in bed and was rushed to the Air Force General Hospital emergency room, where another scan revealed a severe dural haemorrhage.

Vanilla ice cream made with plastic

London: A UK designer claims to be the first to ever make ice cream with vanilla flavouring sourced from recycled plastic.

While no one has tasted it yet, it's supposed to taste just like regular vanilla ice cream.

As part of her final-year project, Eleonora Ortolani set out to do something no one else had done before – use a small amount of plastic to make ice cream flavour. She found food scientist and researcher Joanna Sadler, who helped her synthesize synthetic vanillin from plastic.

The first vanilla ice cream flavoured with plastic-synthesized vanillin is currently locked in a fridge and on display at Central Saint Martins.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Warning Signs of Kidney Problems

Swelling of the feet, persistent fatigue or frothy urine may indicate kidney problems. Early consultation with a specialist is essential.

By Centre For Renal Sciences
Manipal Hospitals, Mysuru

manipalhospitals
LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

Co-operation Award to be conferred on Lalitha G.T. Devegowda

Lalitha

Mysuru, Mar. 23 (MTY&DM)- Senior Co-operator of the city Lalitha G.T. Devegowda, wife of Chamundeshwari JD(S) MLA G.T. Devegowda (GTD) and mother of Hunsur MLA G.D. Harish Gowda, will be conferred G.S. Bommegowda Co-operation Award (2026) at a programme organised by Mandya-based Karnataka Sangha at K.V. Shankaregowda Centenary Bhavan in Mandya at 11 am on Mar. 25.

Lalitha, who is also a former Chairperson of Karnataka State Credit Co-operative Societies Federation at Bengaluru, will be conferred the award in recognition of her services to the co-operative sector and organisation of women in the sector.

The award carries a cash prize of Rs. 25,000 and a citation.

Former University of Mysore Prasaranga Director K.T. Veerappa will present the award her in the presence of former Minister C.S. Puttaraju, former MLA K.B. Shivakumar and other personalities.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM	KABINI DAM	HARANGI DAM
Maximum **124.80 feet**	Maximum **2,284 feet**	Maximum **2,859 feet**
Today's level **107.91 feet**	Today's level **2,267.73 feet**	Today's level **2,829.96 feet**
Last year's level **107.33 feet**	Last year's level **2,270.67 feet**	Last year's level **2,834.36 feet**
Yesterday's level **108.29 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,267.95 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,829.98 feet**
Today's Inflow **89 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **123 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **222 cusecs**
Today's Outflow **4,173 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **1,200 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **200 cusecs**

REALLY...?

- ***Most octopuses only live for 1 to 3 years, with some larger species living up to 5 years.***
- ***They often use two of their arms to "walk" along the ocean floor, while the other six are used for catching food.***
- ***Octopuses have excellent eyesight, allowing them to spot dangers from very far away.***
- ***They have thousands of suckers that allow them to taste and smell what they touch.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Attitude in exams...
They give me questions that I don't know.
So I give them answers they don't know!!

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= **Rs. 93.93**
1 UK Pound	= **Rs. 124.87**
1 UAE Dirham	= **Rs. 25.57**
1 Euro	= **Rs. 108.34**

VOICE OF THE READER

Dangerous electric pole at Ashokapuram

Sir,

A streetlight electric pole on 8th Cross Main Road in Ashokapuram, near Siddapaji Temple in Mysuru, is in a dangerous condition and at risk of collapse.

The pole is visibly tilted and unstable, posing a threat to pedestrians, residents, devotees visiting the temple and passing vehicles.

Residents fear that strong winds or rain could cause it to fall, leading to accidents, injuries or even loss of life. The electric wires attached to the pole also increase the risk of electrocution.

Despite the hazardous condition, no repair or replacement work has been carried out so far.

We urge the Mysuru City Corporation and the Chamundeshwari Electricity Supply Corporation (CESC) to inspect the spot immediately and repair or replace the damaged pole at the earliest to prevent any untoward incident.

—V.S. Manoj (Advocate)
Mysuru 3.3.2026

Summer STREAM Boot Camp at Excel Public School

Mysuru, Mar. 23 - Excel Public School has announced its Summer STREAM Boot Camp-2026, a 15-day experiential learning programme for students entering Grades 6, 7, 8 and 9.

The initiative brings together three specialised camps: **1.** STREAM Exploration Workshop - Wonder Quest, **2.** Astronomy and HAM Radio workshop - Signals to Stars and **3.** Theatre & Performance Workshop, offering students opportunities to explore science, technology, creativity and performing arts through hands-on learning experiences.

The programme will be conducted from Apr. 1 to 18 between 9 am and 1 pm, at the Excel Public School campus in Koorgalli, Mysuru. Each camp will accommodate 30 to 40 students per batch.

Wonder Quest introduces students to STREAM-based exploration through themed learning modules that combine science, creativity and hands-on making.

Signals to Stars introduces students to astronomy and amateur radio communication through practical sessions conducted at the school's Astronomy Observatory and Amateur Radio Station. The camp includes telescope observations, solar astronomy, constellation mapping, satellite tracking and SSTV reception, along with workshops where students build telescopes and explore astronomy software.

Participants will also be introduced to the fundamentals of HAM radio communication, including Morse code, antenna design, radio electronics and long-distance communication (DXing).

The Theatre & Performance Workshop focuses on creative expression and stage performance through a structured three-phase programme. The workshop begins with theatre games, voice and speech training, body movement exercises, improvisation and creative activities that introduce students to stagecraft.

The second phase moves into script exploration, character development, scene rehearsals and stage blocking, allowing participants to experience the process of producing a theatre performance.

The programme concludes with a final stage presentation, followed by reflection sessions that encourage students to connect theatre skills with communication, confidence and teamwork in everyday life.

For registration and details call Mob:99801-63406 or visit *www.excelpublicschool.com*.

Natl. workshop at Teresian College

Dr. R. Kasilingam, Dean, School of Law, Pondicherry University, inaugurating the National workshop on Structural Equation Modelling organised by Teresian College Research Centre (Commerce) at the College auditorium in city recently as** (from left) **Committee Members A.G. Kaveriamma, Shiny Moses, B.S. Radhika, L. Megha Urs and S. Tanuja, Director of Research, Teresian College, Dr. Veena M. D'Almeida, College Principal Dr. Sr. Rohini, Senior Professor, Department of Studies in Commerce, University of Mysore, Dr. M. L. Ashoka, IQAC Co-ordinator Vivek Charles, Assistant Professor and Research Guide Dr. P.M. Shiva Prasad and Committee Members W. Arun Devapura, M. Mahadevaprasad and Prakasha look on.

Mysuru, Mar. 23 - A two-day National Workshop on Structural Equation Modelling organised by Teresian College Research Centre (Commerce) in association with IQAC, Teresian College, Mysuru, was held at its Ave Maria Golden Jubilee Auditorium recently. It aimed to enhance advanced research competencies among academicians, research scholars, students and other aspiring researchers.

Inaugurating the workshop Dr. R. Kasilingam, Professor, Department of Management Studies, Dean, School of Law, Pondicherry University, emphasised that India's research output needs to grow further in comparison with other leading countries.

He also observed that the spirit of generating innovative ideas among the younger generation is relatively limited and needs greater encouragement adding that strengthening research culture and engaging students in systematic research activities can nurture creativity, critical thinking and innovation among young minds.

Dr. M.L. Ashoka, Senior Professor, Department of Studies in Commerce, University of Mysore, emphasised that business growth today strongly depends on research and effective research requires the application of advanced analytical tools such as Structural Equation Modelling.

He said that strengthening research culture and contributing to knowledge creation is a collective responsibility that demands active involvement of every academician and researcher.

College Principal Rev. Dr. Sr. Rohini presided. Dr. Veena M. D'Almeida, Director of Research, Dr. P. M. Shiva Prasad, Assistant Professor and Research Guide and Vivek Charles, IQAC Co-ordinator, were present.

The workshop provided comprehensive training on key analytical techniques including Linear and Multivariate Regression, Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA), Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA), Structural Model Building and Evaluation, First and Second Order SEM, Mediation and Moderation Analysis and assessment of Convergent and Discriminant Validity (AVE, CR, HTMT). Participants gained practical insights into interpreting model fit indices such as CFI, TLI, RMSEA and SRMR, along with hands-on experience in analysing outputs using AMOS and SmartPLS.

Curating Bespoke Experiences: Where Hospitality Meets Well-being

Vinattaa Rao

In Mysuru's evolving hospitality landscape, Vinattaa Rao emerges as a refined breath of fresh air - introducing a nuanced, experience-led approach to dining and events.

A hospitality graduate from Christ University, Bengaluru and an **MBA graduate from Swinburne University, Australia,** she blends strong academic grounding with global exposure. While pursuing her MBA, she worked with Grand Hyatt, Melbourne where she was deeply inspired by the philosophy of curating bespoke experiences-a perspective that has stayed with her ever since. Her journey with Taj Group of Hotels, Bengaluru, ITC Windsor, Bengaluru and Hyatt Hotels, India has further shaped her understanding of how thoughtfully designed spaces can influence emotions and create lasting impressions.

She is also the founder of **Akar,** an initiative rooted in the mental well-being space, through which she seamlessly brings together hospitality and mindfulness-creating experiences that are not just aesthetic, but deeply meaningful.

At the heart of her approach lies a simple yet elegant belief - every detail matters. From candle placements and colour palettes to music and the way guests are welcomed, each element contributes to an experience that is not merely seen, but felt.

Even in the most ordinary moments, this philosophy finds expression. In a light-hearted tête-à-tête over something as simple as coffee, she reflects on how presentation has the power to transform the everyday into something memorable - creating pauses, evoking emotion, and leaving behind a sense of quiet joy.

Behind every experience she curates is a team, and she believes the true art lies in clearly communicating a vision and bringing it to life seamlessly. This becomes even more significant when working with multiple brands, each with its own ethos. By understanding their individual identities and emotional narratives, she weaves them together into a cohesive experience - ensuring that while each brand retains its essence, the event as a whole feels unified, immersive, and memorable.

With a dual focus on hospitality and well-being, she curates experiences that go beyond the moment - leaving an emotional imprint that lingers long after.

Through her work, she aims to introduce Mysuru to a more elevated and mindful way of engaging with hospitality - one that is intentional, immersive, and centred around how it makes one feel.

Email: raovinattaa@gmail.com

> ***"Women-led hospitality is not built on service alone, but on the quiet art of curating how people feel, heal, and belong."***

Vintage Vignettes
... from a Princely State

By R.G. Singh
Secretary, Ramsons Kala Pratishtana

Majority of the photographs of H.H. Maharaja Krishnaraja Wadiyar IV shot at official functions across Mysore State (outside the Palace premises) shows the Maharaja dressed in white trousers, a comfortable close-collar coat and a ready-to-wear turban. However, at celebrations and events within the Palace, he is seen in resplendent silks, jewellery and a grand turban.

This 1939 photograph is from the grand birthday celebrations of the Maharaja. He is being escorted out of the Darbar Hall as soon as he descended from the silver throne. The Yuvaraja H.H. Kanteerava Narasimharaja Wadiyar and Prince Jayachamaraja Wadiyar follow him; right behind him are two staff bearers carrying ornamental fly-whisks (chauri). The smartly attired Mysore State officers offer him a salute as he walks past them. Later, the Maharaja and his entourage went around the city in their Silver Ghost to accept greetings from their subjects.

It was at the ruling King's birthday, that the various honours to eminent citizens, distinguished officers and able administrators were conferred including four separate classes of the Order of the Gandabherunda (established 1892).

[Size: 18x13 cms; Collection: Private]

'Include lessons on Wadiyars in State curriculum'

Senior Scholar Vid. V. Nanjundaswamy paying floral tributes to the portrait of Chamaraja Wadiyar X at a programme in city last evening as industrialist Dr. M. Jagannath Shenoy, Sri Krishna Gana Sabha President B.S. Sridhara Raj Urs, Vidu. Shubha Raghavendra, Dr. Kru.Pa. Manjunath and others look on.

Mysuru, Mar. 23 (SPN&VNS)- The history of Wadiyars and their administration which till date is considered as a model for the development works should be a part of the syllabus at the primary education, said industrialist Dr. M. Jagannath Shenoy.

Speaking after inaugurating 'Kurukshetra' gamaka recital programme organised as part of Chamaraja Wadiyar X Jayanti celebrations by Sri Krishna Gana Sabha at Alwar Kala Bhavana in Gokulam 3rd Stage yesterday, he said that the rulers of Wadiyar Dynasty contributed for development works in every department including industry, irrigation, primary education, higher education and construction of KRS dam.

"It is unfortunate that the State Government has been neglecting the contributions of Wadiyar Dynasty," he said urging the State Government to include lessons on Mysore Wadiyars in the syllabus.

The then ruler Chamaraja Wadiyar X was a great patron of classical music with Veene Seshanna, Mysore Vasudevacharya and other great scholars being a part of the Royal Court. During the rule of Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar, the development works were at the peak and the next ruler Jayachamaraja Wadiyar also followed on a similar path, said Dr. Shenoy reiterating his stand on introducing Mysore Wadiyars to students at primary level.

Senior scholar Vid. V. Nanjundaswamy also spoke about the contributions of Wadiyar Dynasty in the field of art, culture and music.

This was followed by gamaka recital by Vidu. Shubha Raghavendra and interpretation by Dr. Kru.Pa. Manjunath.

Sri Krishna Gana Sabha President B.S. Sridhara Raj Urs and others were present on the occasion.

City hosts its first-ever
'The Art Park-Meet the Artists' event

Mysuru, Mar. 23 (MK&VNS)- Mysuru experienced a unique cultural showcase as the Bengaluru-based art initiative, The Art Park, held its first-ever 'Meet the Artists' event at Heritage House at Saraswathipuram in city yesterday.

The day-long programme saw art patrons to witnessing creativity in action within a heritage setting. Organised in association with Bharath Hospital and Institute of Oncology, the event featured live art demonstrations, exhibitions and interactive sessions.

Speaking on the occasion, Bhagya Ajaikumar, President of The Art Park, said that this was the first time the event was conducted in Mysuru, a city celebrated for its rich cultural heritage.

"The programme brought together both renowned award-winning artists and emerging talent, providing budding artists an opportunity to interact with established names and gain valuable exposure. The event marked a significant step in bringing contemporary visual arts closer to the public, giving residents a chance to engage, learn and appreciate art on a personal level," said Bhagya Ajaikumar.

Dr. B.S. Ajaikumar, Chairman Bharath Hospital and Institute of Oncology, noted that the initiative, inspired by S.G. Vasudev, began as a collaborative effort in Bengaluru, with Bhagya Ajaikumar playing a key role.

Praising the strong response to the Mysuru event, he affirmed that the programme would continue to identify and promote talent, with plans to expand these initiatives further in the future, reinforcing the city's vibrant cultural ecosystem. Each artist at the event created live artworks without a fixed theme, allowing for the expression of individual styles and creativity. More than 30 artists both renowned and upcoming artists took part in the program.

Prominent artists including Raghavendra, Gururaj Nayak, K. Raghavendra, Yoganand, Vijaya Rao, Vichar, Manjunath, CAVA Alumni Association President S.N. Siddaram and Venugopal were present.

V.K. Sasikala visits
Chamundi Hill Temple

In view of Tamil Nadu Assembly elections, late Chief Minister J. Jayalalithaa's close aide V.K. Sasikala visited Chamundi Hill Temple yesterday and sought the blessings of the deity. Temple Chief Priest Shashishekar Dixit, local leaders Umeshkumar and Chandrashekar are also seen.

Four killed in early morning bus accident
Drowsy driver rams bus into roadside fencing on Mysuru-Bengaluru NH

Mysuru, Mar. 23 (AG&BCT)- Four persons were killed and two were injured in a horrific road accident early this morning near Sankalagere village in Channapatna taluk on Mysuru-Bengaluru National Highway.

According to Channapatna Police, the driver of a private bus travelling from Kerala to Bengaluru lost control and rammed into roadside fencing near Puttappana Doddi at around 4.10 am, killing four passengers on the spot.

The bus, operated by P.K. Travels, had left Kozhikode in Kerala late last night with 42 passengers on board. Police suspect that the drowsy driver lost control of the bus. After hitting the fencing, the bus travelled nearly 100 metres before coming to a halt.

The deceased have been identified as Mohammad Faran (22) and Sulfi (45) of Kozhikode, Rashid (45) of Bengaluru and Sakeer of Adugodi. Two passengers, Abdul and Aleen from Kannur sustained injuries and have been admitted to the hospital.

Channapatna Traffic Police shifted the injured and the bodies to Government Hospital. Driver Riyaz has been taken into custody and a case has been registered at Channapatna Station.

Flyover plan divides residents, greens

(Continued from page 1)

Rs. 20 crore flyover

To address the issue, authorities have proposed a Rs. 20 crore flyover project. However, the plan involves the removal of 46 trees, mostly neem, planted over a decade ago during the tenure of forest officer Dr. K. Karikalan.

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and the Public Works Department (PWD) have sought clearance for the project and a Forest Department inspection has confirmed that the trees would have to be cut for construction. Environmentalists have objected to the move, highlighting the ecological value of the mature trees.

Residents want flyover

Residents, however, say urgent steps are needed to prevent further accidents. They have suggested interim measures such as installing zig-zag barricades to slow down vehicles, enforcing strict parking regulations near roadside eateries and bars, and introducing traffic signals.

The junction carries heavy traffic every day, with commuters from villages such as Chikkegowdanahundi, Devalapura, Rayanahundi, Ayarahalli, Moodahalli, Suttur, Bilugali, Hadajana, Mosambayanahalli, Kiralu and Jantagalli travelling to Mysuru city.

Residents point out that vehicles approaching from Devalapura descend towards the Ring Road at high speed, while traffic from Mysuru via Hosahundi also enters the junction rapidly, increasing the risk of collisions with vehicles heading towards T. Narasipur and Nanjangud.

While some traders fear that a flyover could affect roadside businesses, residents say scientific traffic management or signal installation is urgently needed to prevent further accidents. They have also suggested transplanting the existing trees and planting new saplings if the flyover project goes ahead.

MDJA opposes Karnataka Advt. Policy

Mysuru, Mar. 23 (DM)- The Mysuru District Journalists Association (MDJA) has opposed the Karnataka Government's Advertisement Policy-2026, stating that it could severely affect local, district and regional newspapers.

At a meeting of editors and publishers held at Patrakarthara Bhavan in city on Saturday, MDJA President K. Deepak said the policy posed a serious threat to the survival of small newspapers.

Participants alleged that the policy was framed without considering the interests of regional publications.

They criticised provisions such as extending the eligibility period for inclusion in the recognised media list, mandatory review of newspapers once in two years, the requirement for regional newspapers to have their own office and printing press with at least 15 permanent staff and a minimum circulation of 25,000 copies in six districts.

They said such conditions were difficult for most regional newspapers to meet under the present circumstances. It was decided to raise the issue at a State-level editors' meeting in Bengaluru on Mar. 24 and later submit a representation to the CM.

MDJA General Secretary Dharmapura Narayan and several editors and publishers were present.

Retd. Medical Officer no more

Dr. Harish

Mysuru, Mar. 23- Dr. B.N. Harish (76), retired Medical Officer and a resident of Brindavan Extension, passed away this morning in city.

He leaves behind his wife Manjula, son Ravindra Harish, daughter Pallavi Harish and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were held at Chirashanthidhama in Gokulam this afternoon, according to family sources.

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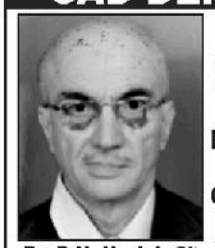
SAD DEMISE



Dr. B.N. Harish (76)
Rtd. Medical Officer
Govt. of Karnataka & a resident of Brindavan Extn.,

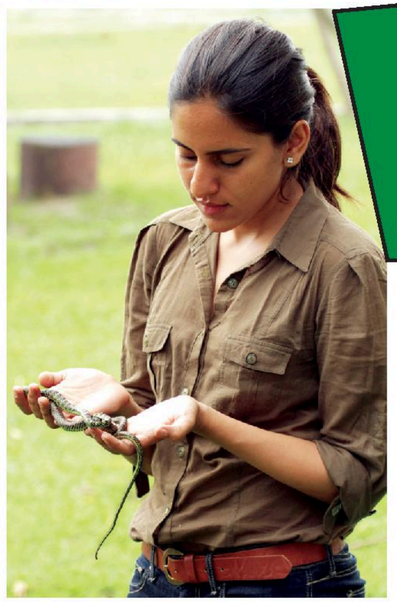
Passed away today (23.03.2026)
Last rites held today at Gokulam Crematorium

—Smt Manjula, Ravindra Harish, Pallavi Harish & Family members

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY SPECIAL...

Nature and science educator Chandini Chhabra blends research with hands-on learning to make conservation engaging for children and accessible to communities.

Where SCIENCE meets the WILD



Direct experience with nature creates an awareness no textbook can replace. On International Women's Day, *Star of Mysore* has been spotlighting women who are breaking barriers and redefining spaces. In a field where women are few, Chandini Chhabra has carved a niche for herself as a nature and science educator, blending curiosity with purpose.

An integral part of The Liana Trust, Chandini works at the intersection of research, education and conservation, developing curricula and resources that help communities and young learners understand the need to protect the natural world.

From demystifying snakes and promoting safe coexistence to creating hands-on learning experiences beyond textbooks, her work brings science alive while fostering a deeper connection with nature.

By Sujata Rajpal

Star of Mysore (SOM): What attracted you to environmental research, education and conservation?

Chandini Chhabra: I have always loved animals and being out in nature. As a child, I imagined living on a farm with everything from elephants to dolphins. My mother, who is a nature and science educator, was a big inspiration. In my 20s, I travelled to all seven continents, including Antarctica, and was exposed to amazing work being done in nature conservation around the world.

As a Montessori-trained teacher, I realised education could turn research into meaningful learning experiences. Meeting my husband, Gerry Martin, a conservationist and herpetologist, allowed me to translate that passion into shared work in conservation.

SOM: Much of your work involves research and educational resources. Can you explain?

Chandini: I want to bring science and nature to life for children in a classroom. To do that, I don't think relying on Google searches or textbooks is the answer. I spend a lot of time researching the topic and meeting experts. I then translate this into fun activities, experiments, resources, books and learning tools.

I've written three books: 'Snake Bite: Simple Steps to Safe Recovery', 'The Big Beach Clean Up', developed with Pratham Books, which teaches basic fractions with a nature theme and 'The Book of Wild Challenges.'

SOM: Tell us about Liana Trust that you and your husband run.

Chandini: We focus on conservation and education in rural India. One major initiative is snakebite mitigation, reducing human-snake conflict and teaching communities how to live safely with snakes. The Trust, led by my husband, works on the entire gamut of the issue, from prevention to medical intervention to post-bite rehabilitation. This includes scientific research, venom production, medical training and various other aspects. I'm involved in its outreach and education.

We also provide safety resources like boots, mosquito nets and torches, and train medical staff in districts where snakebites are common.

We aim to improve first response and hospital care, and are exploring ambulances equipped to treat with snakebite. The Karnataka Government has been very proactive, especially regarding snakes and snakebites. It is the first state in India to make snakebite a notifiable disease, meaning every bite must be reported to the authorities.

This has finally provided accurate data, which is essential for tackling the issue effectively. Previously, there was little information, making intervention difficult. Karnataka has also become the first State to mandate cashless treatment for snakebite victims, ensuring that hospitals cannot refuse care or redirect patients elsewhere. Both measures are transformative for improving safety and response in rural communities.

SOM: What is your main contribution to this work?

Chandini: I develop educational programmes, curriculum and workshops where children understand that snakes are just like any other animal with no superpowers. We bust myths, teach safe coexistence and also what to do in case of a bite. We show communities how conservation can benefit them, like biodiversity-friendly farming, connecting farmers to markets, and promoting eco-tourism.

We also set up libraries, train teachers and strengthen environmental education in local schools. Another key initiative is the 'Living with Snakes' exhibit.

School groups learn about snake behaviour, safety, venom, and science through fun and interactive displays. Relocating snakes is often harmful; removing a rat snake can disrupt the ecosystem or invite more dangerous snakes. We teach practical steps: Keep paths clear, cover drains, avoid leaf litter, and recognise 'snake hotels.' Snakes can live in fields and thickets while humans maintain safe spaces nearby.

SOM: You live on a farm near Nagarahole, away from city life. How do you like it?

Chandini: It's wonderful. I'm living my childhood dream, surrounded by wildlife. Our farm is about an hour from Mysuru. I miss Delhi's food but not the hustle. We have a lively team, visiting families, farm animals and lots of small wildlife, with over 160 bird species; there's always life here.

I relocated from Delhi in 2015 and haven't looked back. This farm was chemically intensive when we arrived, but we rewilded it into a biodiverse space, blending wildlife and sustainable agriculture.

SOM: What are your views on children and social media?

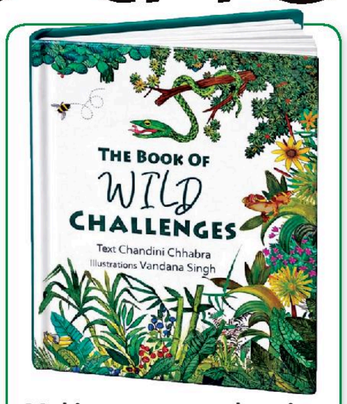
Chandini: I strongly support a ban on social media for children. Adolescence is challenging; social media intensifies pressures on self-esteem and well-being. Children under 16 shouldn't be on platforms like Instagram or Facebook. It's hard to do at an individual level when all their peers are on social media, so restricting access is a necessary first step.

SOM: What advice would you give young women interested in environmental research?

Chandini: Follow your curiosity and don't let societal norms limit you. Women bring empathy, creativity and leadership to conservation. Especially in issues like human-animal conflict, female participation brings level-headedness and calm, giving me hope for a future where people and nature thrive together.

SOM: Why is environmental education particularly important today?

Chandini: With climate change and biodiversity loss, communities need knowledge to make informed decisions. With disappearing habitats, coexistence is the most important conservation practice of our time. Hands-on learning, field visits, wildlife observation and conservation projects create lasting awareness that books alone cannot.



Making nature exploration lively and accessible

The Book of Wild Challenges' **by Chandini Chhabra, illustrated by Vandana Singh, is an engaging and interactive children's book that blends fun with learning. The book introduces young readers to the remarkable abilities of wildlife, from animals that can slow their heart rates to those that can hold their breath for days. Chandini says that the book aims to make learning about nature lively, practical and accessible for children.**

With vibrant illustrations, the book also invites children to test their own abilities against animal champions through playful challenges such as jumping like a flea or smelling like a bee.

Nature & science educator Chandini Chhabra demonstrating the height of an Ostrich to students at a workshop on birds conducted outside Pench Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh.

NEWS BRIEFS

Calling women

As part of International Women's Day celebrations, Sakhi Foundation and Surya Charitable Trust have organised various competitions for women at Siddhivinayaka Temple auditorium in Ramakrishnanagar on Mar. 31 at 10.30 am. Group Folk Songs Singing Competition - Minimum 4 and maximum 8 women should be there in a group; Desi Juice Competition - Juice should be prepared using fruits, vegetables or greens at their house and displayed at the competition venue; Sakhigondu Saree - Saree will be given as the prize if one guesses its right price; That Anta Haadi - Identifying the Kannada film song. Last date to register is Mar. 28. Interested may contact Mob: 99647-90442 or 83103-06882.

Health camps

A free surgical diseases screening has been organised at Suyog Hospital in Ramakrishnanagar from Mar. 23 to 28 from 10 am to 6 pm. Those with appendicitis, stones in gallbladder, hernia, fistula and diabetic foot may benefit from the camp. A 30% discount will be provided on the tests prescribed by doctors. Call Mob: 99863-99862.

As part of Ugadi and International Women's Day celebrations, a free eye check-up camp has been organised at Annapoorna Eye Hospital in Sharadadevinagar from Mar. 23 to 31 between 10 am and 7 pm. Call Mob: 77603-62404.

Obituary

John Xavier Peter

Mysuru, Mar. 23- John Xavier Peter (81), a resident of No. 574, 1st Main, Gaddige Road in Bogadi, passed away yesterday in city.

He leaves behind his wife, one son, one daughter and a host of relatives and friends. Funeral was held at Peter's Church Cemetery at Bogadi this afternoon.

Jagadamba

Jagadamba (85), wife of senior Advocate late Veerappaji and a resident of Krishna Vilas Road in Devaraja Mohalla, passed away yesterday at a private hospital in city. She leaves behind two sons, two daughters and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were held at Veerashaiva Burial Grounds in Vidyaranyapuram this morning.

'Archaeology decodes life beneath earth'

Noted Archaeozoologist Dr. C.V. Sharada speaks on new horizons on old worlds

Mysuru, Mar. 23 (MK&DM)- Archaeological science is vital for understanding artefacts and objects hidden beneath the earth's surface, said Dr. C.V. Sharada, noted Archaeozoologist and environmental archaeologist and Assistant Professor, IIT-Gandhinagar.

She was addressing a Mind-to-Mind session on 'New Horizons on Old Worlds — Exciting Scenarios from Archaeological Science,' organised by the Indian Institute of Educational Theatre (IIET) at IIET, Hardwicke School Campus, JLB Road, yesterday.

As a faculty member associated with Archaeological Sciences Centre at IIT-Gandhinagar, she leads 'Interspecies Research Network,' a multidisciplinary research group exploring areas like zooarchaeology, human-animal studies, cultural studies, multi-species anthropology & forensic bio-geoarchaeology.

Useful resources from waste

The talk was a fascinating glimpse into her interdisciplinary work, highlighting connections between archaeology and natural sciences.

Pointing out that archaeology mainly involves excavation & scientific study, Dr. Sharada stressed the need to create useful resources from waste and adopt scientific methods in research. "Archaeology focuses on studying artefacts and objects found beneath natural soil layers. The study of fossils and remains of ancient plants and animals must be carried out within the framework of the law. Artefacts discovered during excavations should not be taken away without permission from competent authorities, and research on them must be conducted with due approval," she said.

Sharing insights from her extensive expeditions and her evolution as an archaeological scientist, Dr. Sharada also noted that advanced technologies are being used in archaeological research. "Small robots are deployed to explore deep inside Egyptian pyramids, whose outer layers are covered with massive stone blocks," she explained.

Indus and Harappan Civilisations

Stating that archaeological studies have greatly contributed to understanding ancient and present-day lifestyles, she highlighted how research has helped scholars study the Indus and Harappan Civilisations.

Describing archaeology as a scientific discipline involving observation, questioning, hypothesis, experimentation and conclusions, Dr. Sharada said, the field also helps researchers understand social systems, cultural patterns and practices in India and across the world. "Archaeology also contributes to a better understanding of botany and zoology. I have studied several skeletons and fossils of ancient animals, including dinosaur remains in Gujarat that are believed to be thousands of years old," she added.

Elephant destroying estates, paddy in Kodagu caught

Shifted to Mathigodu Elephant Camp

Siddapura, Mar. 23 (KS)- A wild elephant, which was creating menace, has been caught by the Forest Department and shifted to Mathigodu Elephant Camp.

The Forest Department personnel, along with domesticated elephants Abhimanyu, Mahendra, Kanjan, Bhima, Sugreeva and Harsha from Dubare and Mathigodu Elephant Camps began the combing operation and after five hours traced the wild elephant near Chembebellur coffee estate.

Veterinarian Dr. Ramesh and Kushalnagar Forest Officer and sharp shooter Kannanda Ranjan fired tranquillisers on the wild elephant, following which the elephant was rendered unconscious. The Forest staff then secured the wild elephant with ropes and was later treated. After the elephant regained conscious, it was shifted to Mathigodu Elephant Camp.

The operation was carried out under the guidance of Kodagu Circle Chief Conservator of Forests (CCF) Sonal Vrishni and Deputy Conservator of Forests (DCF) Jagannath. The wild elephant was frequently spotted in coffee estates at Chembebellur, Devanageri, Bellarimadu, Kukkluru, Podakote, Imangala, Mythadi, Kadanur, Bilugunda, Ammathi and surrounding villages even during day time and had also attempted to attack many people. This had resulted in problems to estate owners as they were afraid to come to work fearing elephant attack.

The villagers had demanded the Forest Department to capture the wild elephant and MLA A.S. Ponnanna had instructed the Forest Department to capture the wild elephant. Villagers, who heaved a sigh of relief following the capture of the wild elephant, urged the Forest Department officials to drive other wild elephants back to the forest.

Meanwhile, DCF Jagannath said that the wild elephant was captured after obtaining permission from higher officers and shifted to Mathigodu Elephant Camp. Over a hundred staff took part in the operation.

Madikeri DCF Ramesh, Assistant Conservator of Forests (ACF) Gopal, Kodagu Superintendent of Police (SP) R.N. Bindu Mani, Virajpet Range Forest Officer (RFO) Shivaram, Thithimathi RFO Gangadhar, Dr. Chittiyappa, DRFO Sanjith Somaiah, Raghava, Diwakar, Shashi, Murthy, Jadimani, Rapid Response Team (RRT) members, Elephant Task Force (ETF) members and Forest Department staff took part in the operation.

Centenarian Sannakka passes away

Mysuru, Mar. 23- Sannakka (100), wife of late Doddabasappa and a resident of Jayalakshmipuram, passed away yesterday in city.

A native of K.R. Nagar, she leaves behind her family members and a host of relatives and friends. Last rites were held at K.R. Nagar this afternoon.

Showstoppers sizzle

at Mysore Fashion Week Season-8

The Season 8 of Mysore Fashion Week witnessed designers from across the country and students from fashion institutes from Bengaluru and Mysuru showcasing their couture during the three-day event held recently at the Silent Shores Resorts and Spa located in the outskirts of the city.

Along with the noted fashion designers, Mysore Fashion Week provided a platform for Gen-Next designers from JD Institute of Fashion, Bengaluru and Dreamzone Design College, Mysuru, to showcase their designs.

Picture above shows Mysore Fashion Week Founder and Designer Jayanthi Ballal posing with her showstopper actress Aditi Pohankar** (draped in green saree). **Picture alongside shows actress Mannara Chopra walking the ramp with designer Rosy Ahluwalia.

Actress Archana Gautham walking the ramp for designer Gagan Kumar.

Actress Ritu Shivpuri showcasing the couture by designer Rehan Shah.

WORD OF THE DAY

Apotheosis

Pronunciation: uh-pah-thee-OH-sis (noun)
Meaning: Apotheosis refers to the perfect form or example of something or to the highest or best part of something. It can also mean "elevation to divine status; deification." It is usually singular, but the plural form is apotheoses.
Origin: Among the ancient Greeks, it was sometimes thought fitting to grant someone "god" status. Hence the word apothéōsis, from the verb apotheóō or apotheoûn, meaning "to deify." (All are rooted in the Greek word theós, meaning "god," which we can also thank for such religion-related terms as theology and atheism.) There's not a lot of literal apotheosizing to be had in modern English, but apotheosis is thriving in the 21st century. It can refer to the highest or best part of something, as in "the celebration reaches its apotheosis in an elaborate feast," or to a perfect example or ultimate form, as in "a movie that is the apotheosis of the sci-fi genre."
Example: "At its simplest level, Canada appears in American literature as a wilderness escape from a more urbanized United States. ... The apotheosis of this view of Canada as a wilderness getaway might be Sylvia Plath's poem 'Two Campers in Cloud Country,' subtitled 'Rock Lake, Canada' and written about a camping trip she and her husband Ted Hughes took through Canada and the northeastern US in 1959." — Brooke Clark, LitHub.com, 17 Apr. 2025

THE ODD WORD

Iamatology
Study of remedies.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

New kid on the block

Meaning: When you say that someone is the 'New kid on the block' you mean that they are a new arrival to the area or to the social group.
Origin: The phrase 'New kid on the block' originated in the United States and was first seen in print in a "Skippy " cartoon by Percy Crosby: "The new kid on the block told me that the next time he saw you he was goin' to twist your nose."
Example: "Jeff's the new kid on the block; he doesn't know all the rules yet."

QUOTE BOX

Success is the sum of small efforts - repeated day in and day out.

—Robert Collier

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

Answer: One night stand (Number 'One' + Knight + st + and).

SUDOKU

			3			5		
		7	9				6	
6		8		5				2
			8				1	
	9						7	
	6				2			
5				6		8		4
	7				5	1		
		3			1			

Answer to previous puzzle

6	8	4	9	5	2	3	1	7
9	1	3	7	6	8	4	2	5
5	7	2	3	1	4	9	6	8
2	5	8	6	9	3	1	7	4
4	6	1	5	2	7	8	3	9
7	3	9	4	8	1	2	5	6
1	4	7	8	3	5	6	9	2
3	9	5	2	4	6	7	8	1
8	2	6	1	7	9	5	4	3

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CROSS WORD

ACROSS:

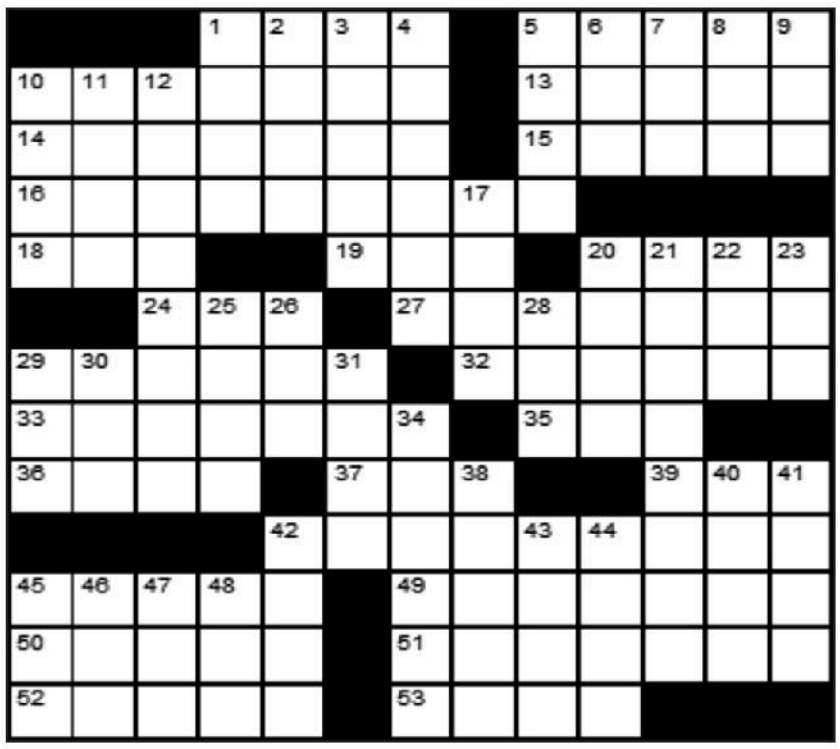
1 Viper like snakes
5 Show unholy glee?
10 Chain, fetter or handcuff
13 Helped out
14 Wall-building Roman emperor
15 Fosters or nurtures, in a way?
16 Secure against future loss
18 Grow old or mature
19 A foot division
20 Twitches
24 Badger
27 Rebels or fights back
29 Makes sense (4,2)
32 Remain in hiding (3,3)
33 Gastronome
35 State owned enterprise in short
36 Weaponry
37 The sun in Spain
39 Search and Rescue
42 Astrologer's tool
45 Japanese poem
49 Japanese warrior
50 Small shoot
51 Like a cyclops? (3-4)
52 Articles
53 Nav. readings

DOWN

1 Some land or change of "care"?
2 ____ over : glance at or look through?
3 Vegetation or shrub
4 Higher ranking
5 Cricket great Sobers
6 Make a false statement
7 Harem, ladies quarters in an Arab household
8 Ireland's ___ Lingus
9 Tax deducted at source, in short
10 One of the two main branches of Islam
11 Suspend
12 Supplementary item
17 Sense or touch
20 On one's ___ : alert or eager?
21 Lacking reality
22 Central Technical Operations
23 U-turn from NNE
25 Aviation Safety Reporting Sys.
26 Up a __ tree : in great difficulties?
28 Very important person, acronym?
29 Revered personality __ Khan
30 Beetle - "rod" anagram?
31 Mexican coin
34 Trunks
38 Lends money
40 Assoc. of Pub. Add. Engrs.
41 Ex-Kiwi captain John ___
42 Embraces, cuddles
43 The friendly pirate in 'Peter Pan'
44 Stage hints
45 Horizontal Situation Indicator
46 An ___ comparison : a correct simile?
47 Poetic anger
48 Kimberley's pet name?

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

		S	H	H			T	C	A			
	S	P	O	O	F		R	A	S	P	S	
M	O	R	O	S	E		O	D	E	O	N	
S	H	A	K	T	I		O	R	A	T	O	R
G	A	Y		A	G	A	P	E		E	R	A
			A	G	N	I			O	N	T	O
	A	S	S	E	S	S	M	E	N	T	S	
O	N	E	S			N	O	G	O			
A	T	E		L	I	E	T	O		E	L	F
F	I	T	S	I	N		I	T	A	L	I	C
	C	H	I	N	A		V	I	L	L	A	S
	S	E	V	E	N		E	S	T	E	R	
			A	R	E			M	O	N		



CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

PCWCWNCP, FYI XMG'D KPMTG DAC

YXCMG HTDA M DCMQOYYG.

TODAY'S CLUE: I EQUALS U

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: A world without tomatoes is like a string quartet without violins.

SINGLE SCREEN THEATRES

- **Sangam Theatre** — **Ph: 2520494**
  Dhurandhar - The Revenge (H) - 4 Shows
- **Mahadeshwara Theatre** — **Mob: 99008-20093**
  Ustaad Bhagat Singh (Te) - 4 Shows
- **Padma Theatre** — **Ph: 2521923**
  Ustaad Bhagat Singh (Te) - 4 Shows
- **Woodlands Theatre** — **Ph: 2422871**
  Love Mocktail - 3 (K) - 4 Shows
- **Gayathri Theatre** — **Ph: 2443568**
  Sampathige Savaal (K) - 4 Shows
- **Prabha Theatre** — **Mob: 98454-14691**
  Akash (K) - 4 Shows
- **Lido Theatre** — **Ph: 2420885**
  Hayagrriva (K) - 4 Shows
- **Rajkamal Theatre** — **Ph: 2423554**
  Kanchana 2 (Te) - 4 Shows
- **Balaji Theatre** — **Mob: 98863-25207**
  Dhurandhar - The Revenge (H) - 3 Shows

MOVIES AT DRC CINEMAS Ph: 4240422 4241800

Dhurandhar - The Revenge (H)	(S-1)	10.00 am, 2.35 pm, 7.10 pm
	(S-4)	8.00 am, 12.35 pm, 5.10 pm, 9.45 pm
Love Mocktail - 3 (K)	(S-2)	10.25 am, 1.15 pm, 4.05 pm 7.00 pm, 10.00 pm
Ustaad Bhagat Singh (Te)	(S-3)	10.00 am, 4.00 pm, 7.15 pm
Youth (Ta)	(S-3)	1.10 pm
Aadu 3 (Ma)	(S-3)	10.25 pm

MOVIES AT MYSURU VISION CINEMAS Ph: 2973519

Dhurandhar - The Revenge (H)	:	10.30 am, 1.40 pm, 3.10 pm 6.30 pm, 7.30 pm, 930 pm
Love Mocktail - 3 (K)	:	11.00 am, 1.15 pm, 4.05 pm, 6.05 pm
Ustaad Bhagat Singh (Te)	:	12.15 pm, 3.15 pm, 6.15 pm
Aadu 3 (Ma)	:	9.15 pm

MOVIES AT NEXUS MALL

Dhurandhar The Revenge (H)	:	11.30 am, 12.00 pm, 12.45 pm 1.00 pm, 2.35 pm, 4.45 pm, 5.30 pm, 5.45 pm, 9.30 pm, 9.45 pm, 10.15 pm, 1.30 pm
Love Mocktail - 3 (K)	:	10.25 am, 1.25 pm, 4.05 pm 6.55 pm, 10.30 pm
Ustaad Bhagat Singh (Te)	:	11.25 am, 4.15 pm, 7.20 pm
Youth (Ta)	:	7.25 pm
Aadu 3 (Ma)	:	10.20 pm

MOVIES AT GARUDA MALL

Ustaad Bhagat Singh (Te)	:	9.25 am, 4.15 pm, 9.55 pm
Love Mocktail - 3 (K)	:	10.35 am, 1.25 pm, 7.25 pm
Dhurandhar - The Revenge (H)	:	12.35 pm, 1.00 pm, 5.20 pm, 5.45 pm, 10.05 pm, 10.15 pm, 10.30 pm
Aadu 3 (Ma)	:	6.30 pm

MOVIES AT MALL OF MYSORE

Ustaad Bhagat Singh (Te)	:	9.35 am, 12.45 pm, 6.50 pm
Love Mocktail - 3 (K)	:	1.55 am, 7.30 pm, 10.20 pm
Dhurandhar - The Revenge (H)	:	12.00 pm, 1.00 pm, 4.45 pm, 5.45 pm 9.30 pm, 10.00 pm, 10.30 pm
Youth (Ta)	:	3.55 pm

MOVIES AT CENTRO MALL

Love Mocktail - 3 (K)	:	10.10 am, 11.50 am, 7.25 pm
Dhurandhar The Revenge (H)	:	12.00 pm, 1.00 pm, 2.40 pm, 4.45 pm 5.45 pm, 9.30 pm, 10.15 pm, 10.30 pm
Ustaad Bhagat Singh (Te)	:	1.00 pm, 7.05 pm
Youth (Ta)	:	4.10 pm
Aadu 3 (Ma)	:	10.15 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there is no minimum audience of 15.

Shreshta 2026: State-level IT, Management, Cultural and Sports Fest held

Mysuru, Mar. 23- The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) and Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) at Seshadripuram Degree College, Hebbal Outer Ring Road, Mysuru, in association with the Departments of Computer Science, Commerce and Management, NSS, NCC, Sports and Kala Srishti, had organised the State-level IT, Management, Cultural and Sports Fest 'Shreshta-2026' recently.

After the ceremonial lighting of the lamp by the dignitaries, chief guest Channappa Huddar, renowned singer and winner of *Sa Re Ga Ma Pa Season 11*, who addressed the gathering, appreciated the efforts of the organisers and participants, and entertained the audience with his melodious songs.

N. Archana Swamy, Principal, Seshadripuram Independent PU College (SIPUC), who was the guest of honour, encouraged the participants to perform with confidence.

In her presidential address, Dr. K. Sowmya Erappa, Principal, Seshadripuram Degree College, said 'Shreshta' is not just an event, but an emotion and appreciated the students for their dedicated efforts.

Events galore

A total of 14 events were conducted as part of the Fest, including: UI/UX Design, Pattern Coding - Logic Overload, Treasure Hunt, E-Sports (BGMI), Best Entrepreneur, Human Resource, Finance, Marketing, Ramp Walk, Solo Dance, Solo Singing, Group Singing, Videography and Cricket.

Additionally, the students showcased their talents through innovative model-making projects in both Computer Science and Commerce & Management Departments.

Around 37 colleges and 925 students from various colleges across Karnataka actively participated in the competitions.

Overall Champions

IT Overall Championship: Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Mysuru; Management Overall Championship: Sapient College, Mysuru; Cultural Overall Championship: SBRR Mahajana College, Mysuru; Cricket: Winners - MES First Grade College; Runners-up: Vidya Vikas, Mysuru.

Agnipath Drill

The NSS and NCC Units had organised Agnipath Drill Competition at Kuvempu Rangamandira. Lt. Col. Y.K. Sanjeev, Commanding Officer, 13 KAR BN NCC, Mysuru, was the chief guest.

A total of 6 NSS teams and 4 NCC teams participated in the Agnipath Drill. The judges of the competition were Subedar Major Manoj Pandya, 13 KAR BN NCC Mysuru and Subedar Rajkumar, 13 KAR BN NCC Mysuru.

NSS Unit and NCC Category winners

NSS Category winners: STG First Grade College, Chinakurali, Mandya; Runners-up: Seshadripuram Degree College, Mysuru.

NCC Category Senior Wing winners: Seshadripuram Degree College; Runners-up: 4 KAR Air Squadron; Junior Wing winners: Sainik School, Saragur, H.D. Kote.

Shreedevi N. Prabhu and Y.R. Rudresh, Faculty Coordinators; Lt. R. Kumar, NCC Officer; P.R. Gurumurthy Bhat, NSS Programme Officer, Naib Subbedar Kulwinder Singh, 13 KAR BN NCC Mysuru; Hawaldar Manish, 13 KAR BN NCC Mysuru, along with faculty members, staff, volunteers and students were present on the occasion.

EVENTS TODAY (MARCH 23)

- **Trayinyas Shrividya Foundation:** 17th Vasantha Navarathri Mahotsav, Sri Lalitha Panchami, Sri Dasha Mahavidya Homa and Sri Lalitha Maha Yaga, Trayinyas, #8, 7th Main, 3rd Block, Jayalakshmipuram, **5.30 pm.**
- **Sri Krishna Gana Sabha, Mysuru:** Sri Muthuswami Dikshitar Jayanti, vocal concert by Vidu. Madhuri Koushik, accompanied by Vidu. Prithvi Bhaskar on violin, Vid. Nandan Kashyap on mridanga, Alwar Kala Bhavan, Gokulam, **6 pm.**
- **Ganabharathi and Devagitam Charitable Trust:** Special music concert on the 250th birth anniversary of Muthuswami Dikshitar, Prof. R. Visweswran inaugurates; Vocal duet by Bangalore Brothers (Vid. M.B. Hariharan & Vid. S. Ashok), accompanied by Vid. Mathur Srinidhi on violin, Vid. Tumkur B. Ravishankar on mridanga and Vid. Raghunandan Vyasarao on ghata, Ganabharathi, Kuvempunagar, **6 pm.**
- **Sri Ganapathi Seva Mandali Trust, Ramakrishnanagar:** 7th Ramothsava, Devaranama by Swararagalaya Sangeetha Kendra, **6.30 pm;** 'Sri Krishna Sandhana' Gamaka Vachana by Shubha Raghavendra and Vyakhyana by Krupa Manjunath, Rajata Sabha Mantapa, Ganapathi Temple, I-Block, Ramakrishnanagar, **7 pm to 8.30 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (MARCH 24)

- **Trayinyas Shrividya Foundation:** 17th Vasantha Navarathri Mahotsav, Mahabhisheka, Saptashathi Parayana, Lalithopakhyana Parayana, Shrichakrarchana, **8.30 am;** Sri Dasha Varahi Homa, Trayinyas, Jayalakshmipuram, **5.30 pm.**
- **Jagannatha Centre for Art and Culture (JCAC):** Architectural Exhibition featuring the works of celebrated South African architect Peter Rich titled 'Landscape Architecture - Architecture Landscape,' JCAC Vijayanagar 1st Stage, **10 am to 7 pm.**
- **Sri Ganapathi Seva Mandali Trust, Ramakrishnanagar:** 7th Ramothsava, Devaranama by Ranjini Ganakala Kendra, **6.30 pm;** 'Pancha Pitilu' recital by Vid. H.S. Thandavamurthy and troupe, accompanied by Vid. Kumaraswamy on mridanga, Rajata Sabha Mantapa, Ganapathi Temple, I-Block, Ramakrishnanagar, **7 pm to 8.30 pm.**
- **Nalwadi Social, Cultural and Educational Trust:** Valedictory of 'Aniketana,' a Free Folk and Theatre Training Camp, Mysuru District Congress Committee President Dr. B.J. Vijaykumar inaugurates, Kannada & Culture Joint Director V.N. Mallikarjunaswamy presides, Mini Theatre, Kalamandira premises, **6.30 pm.**

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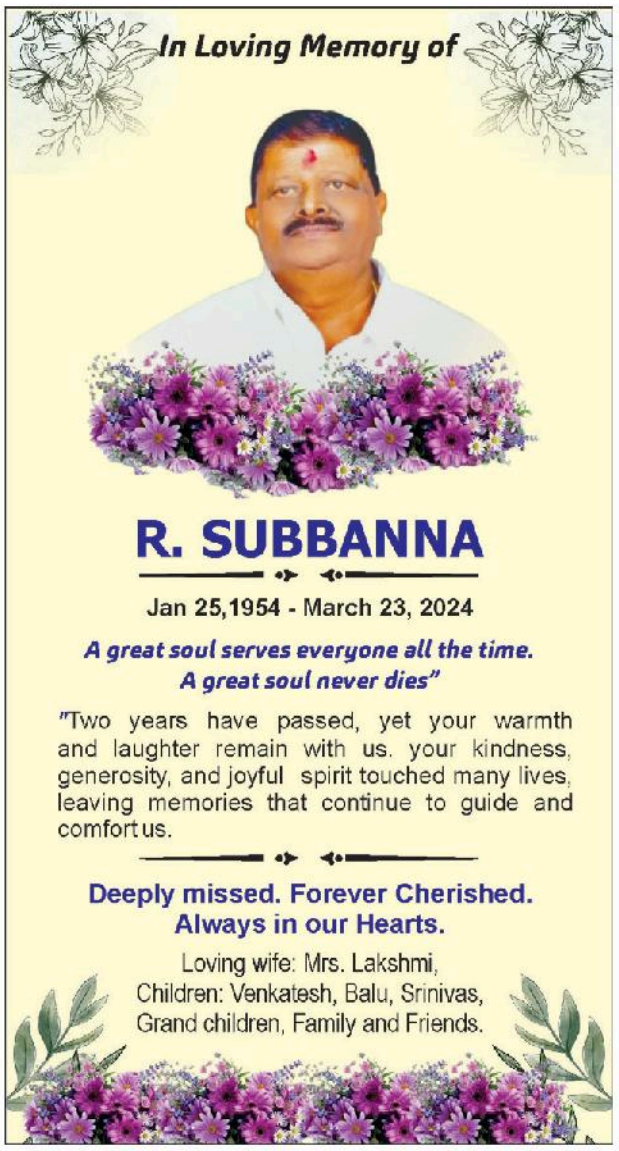
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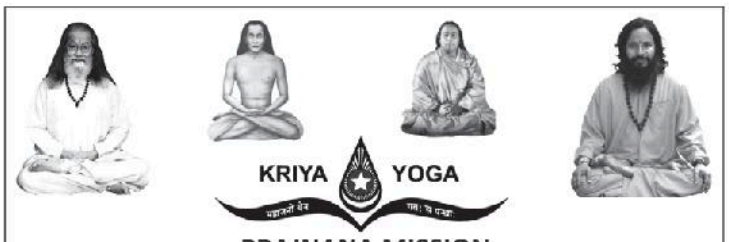
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Printed by T.S. Gopinath and published by M. Govinde Gowda on behalf of Academy Newspapers Private Limited at Academy Newspapers Private Limited, 15-C, Industrial 'A' Layout, Bannimantap, Mysuru-570 015. Editor: M. Govinde Gowda. Phone: 2496520 / 2496521 / 2496522 / 2496523 / 2496526 / 2496527 / 2496528. City offices: Visveshwaraya Building, III Floor, K.R. CIRCLE, Mysuru-570 001, Phone : 2431774 and No. 114, D.Devaraj Urs Road, Mysuru-570 001, Phone : 2428695, E-mail address: voice@starofmysore.com, For Advertisements: ad@starofmysore.com, RNI Reg. No. 29894/78.